



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged. Elsewhere, weekly prices were sharply higher on all sizes when compared to a week earlier. Trade sentiment was steady entering the week. Demand continued to decrease in some areas, however overall demand ranged moderate to fairly good. Transportation and production schedules were disrupted in areas where the winter storm was a factor. Supplies were adequate to instances barely adequate. Breaking stock offerings were tight to barely adequate for the light demand. Light type hens were adequate to about adequate for less than normal processing schedules.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Midwest warehouse delivered prices were sharply higher for all sizes. Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand was moderate to fairly good with extreme winter weather in the Midwest stirring some additional interest. Food service movement was moderate. Supplies were adequate to at times barely adequate. Central states breaking stock prices were higher. Demand was light for the tight to barely adequate offerings. Schedules full-time to reduced. Floor stocks tight to closely balanced. Trade sentiment mostly steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.
EXTRA LARGE	114-123	118-120	
LARGE	114-122	116-119	
MEDIUM	100-106	103-105	
MW Area: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY & Western PA.			
			RANGE MOSTLY
			LARGE 97-104 99
			MEDIUM 83-87 85
			SMALL 49-51

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were sharply higher on all sizes when compared to previous week's pricing. Trade sentiment was generally steady entering the week. Demand slowed in some locations and ranged moderate to fairly good. Reports of hazardous weather conditions and forecasts of more wintry weather caused delays to transportation and production schedules. Supplies were adequate to close. Breaking stock offerings were limited for the unaggressive demand. Light type hens were adequate to about adequate for less than normal slaughter schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	116-129	119-123
LARGE	111-126	116-120
MEDIUM	99-114	104-107

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices were sharply higher for all sizes. The trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand was moderate to fairly good with winter storms causing some delivery problems. Food service movement was mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to at times barely adequate. Central states breaking stock prices were higher. Demand was light for the tight to barely adequate offerings. Schedules full-time to reduced. Floor stocks tight to closely balanced. Trade sentiment mostly steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	119.5-128	121-124
LARGE	117.5-126	119-122
MEDIUM	102.5-111	104-107

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were sharply higher on all sizes when compared to previous week's values. The market tone was steady beginning the week. Transportation problems and the possibility of early plant closings were noted in parts of the Southeast due to frigid temperatures and icy road conditions. Retail and distributive demand was moderate to good. Supplies were barely adequate to sufficient for immediate trade needs. Breaking stock supplies were limited for a slowed and unaggressive demand. Breaking schedules were normal to less than normal. Light type fowl were sufficient to about adequate for the for reduced processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	102.25-126	120-123
LARGE	101.25-124	118-121
MEDIUM	181.25-109	102-106

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged on all sizes entering the week. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was moderate to instances good as traders assessed the effects of yet another blast of wintry weather. Supplies were usually sufficient for immediate trade needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	125-129
LARGE	123-127
MEDIUM	111-115

CHICAGO & MIDWEST EGGS Prices for extra large and large advanced 14 cents, mediums increased 17 cents. The market tone was steady. Retail demand was moderate to good. Food service movement was mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	120-128	122-124
LARGE	119-128	120-123
MEDIUM	105-114	108-110

CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	210 - 250	212 - 240
1/2 doz.	123 - 141	125 - 134
Large doz.	200 - 260	215 - 225
1/2 doz.	120 - 132	128 - 132

WESTERN Prices 17-18 cents higher on jumbo, 15-16 cents higher on extra large and large, and 18-19 cents higher on medium and small. The Pacific region inventory was 10% higher than last week with California up 12% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 6%. Retailer demand light. Offerings continued to increase.

CALIFORNIA Prices 17 cents higher on jumbo, 15 cents higher on extra large and large, and 18 cents higher on medium and small. The California inventory was 12% higher than last week. Retailer demand light. Offerings increased to easily adequate as buyer interest declined sharply at the higher prices. Offering prices on spot loads trended lower. Small benchmark price 122. Ads in Northern California: major- large dozen buy 1 get 1 free, medium dozen 149.

California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	169
EXTRA LARGE	166
LARGE	156
MEDIUM	142

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE
JUMBO	289-379	JUMBO	309-399
EXTRA LARGE	289-339	EXTRA LARGE	319-389
LARGE	239-349	LARGE	249-359
MEDIUM	199-299	MEDIUM	299-319

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending January 30, 2004 will decrease by 15 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending January 23, 2004 were 238,068 cases which was 4 percent below the prior week and 7 percent below estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	201,173	36,895	238,068

% change from the prior week..... -2 -15 -4
Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK All prices were higher. Demand was light as breakers schedule for basic needs only while offerings of additional breaking stock continued tight to barely adequate. Schedules full-time to reduced. Floor stocks tight to closely balanced. Trade sentiment mostly steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	79-81	81
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	67-72	66-68

CENTRAL STATES AREA:

AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was fair to moderate. Offerings were mostly adequate. Processing schedules were less than normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 26-JAN-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.5-9.5 CENTS/LB.	8.5-9	8.59

AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT
FOB PLANT TOO FEW TO REPORT

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were generally unchanged compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 26-JAN-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.75-11.5 CENTS/LB.	8.5-9	9.04

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-JAN 26, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		North	Cent	No	So	So	5-Area
		Cent	Cent	Atl	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	7.2	14.8	6.6	15.3	8.7	52.6
	Change	-0.8	1.7	1.0	2.8	-0.6	9%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	20.2	38.5	11.4	27.3	30.3	127.7
	Change	1.6	7.2	-2.1	9.9	4.6	20%
Large	Curr Wk	38.5	101.6	59.3	84.5	79.2	363.1
	Change	5.1	4.4	-5.5	-7.2	12.1	3%
Medium	Curr Wk	14.1	32.2	15.7	18.4	26.3	106.7
	Change	-0.6	0.8	2.8	2.9	-6.2	0%
Small	Curr Wk	4.4	6.8	2.7	4.5	4.2	22.6
	Change	-0.4	1.3	-1.0	1.4	0.9	11%
Misc	Curr Wk	5.2	23.4	10.1	14.0	5.6	58.3
	Change	0.2	1.0	1.1	-6.5	-0.9	-8%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	17.7	38.6	12.1	33.8	29.4	131.6
	Change	0.2	-9.2	-2.1	7.4	7.2	3%
Total	Curr Wk	107.3	255.9	117.9	197.8	183.7	862.6
Percent	Change	5%	3%	-4%	6%	10%	4%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	862.6	4%	169
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	228.4	-9%	36
Total Shell Egg	1091.0	1%	205

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 169 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

CANADIAN EGGS MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RE-TAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 12, 2004

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	193	190	181	116.2

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING JANUARY 12, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	149	149	139	77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR JANUARY 23, 2004

CURRENT LOADS								12.00	FUTURE LOADS								13.50	TOTAL LOADS								25.50
		SE		NE		MW		LOADS			SC		NW		SW		LOADS									
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST											
GNR W 1	98.00	—	99.00	100.00	—	—	6.00		GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	114.00	1.75										
GNR W 2	—	98.00	94.00	—	—	—	1.00		GL W LG	—	—	—	122.42	—	113.00	6.50										
GNR W 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00		GL W MD	—	—	—	—	—	110.00	1.25										
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00																			
GL W XL	—	—	110.00	112.00	104.00	—	5.75																			
GL W LG	—	113.00	109.00	—	107.78	—	8.50																			
GL W MD	—	—	—	—	102.00	—	2.25																			

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 01/19/04-01/23/04

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS																
74.00								85.75								159.75																
SE				NE				MW				SC				NW				SW												
CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			
GNR W 1	96.25	101.80		97.00	98.20		—	—			60.00	GNR W 1	—	—		—	—		—	—		—	113.90	17.00	GNR W 1	—	—		—	—		—
GNR W 2	—	99.50		94.00	—		—	95.50			4.00	GL W J	121.25	—		—	—		—	—		—	129.92	1.50	GL W J	121.25	—		—	—		—
GNR W 3	—	—		77.00	78.00		—	—			3.00	GL W XL	120.00	116.00		—	130.17		—	—		—	125.74	19.25	GL W XL	120.00	116.00		—	—		—
GNR W 4	—	—		—	88.00		—	—			2.00	GL W LG	120.00	—		—	127.06		—	—		—	126.03	30.75	GL W LG	120.00	—		—	—		—
GNR BR 1	—	109.29		—	—		—	—			2.75	GL W MD	99.42	—		—	—		—	—		—	104.10	12.50	GL W MD	99.42	—		—	—		—
GL W J	—	—		114.00	115.00		—	—			1.00	GL W SM	—	66.00		—	—		—	—		—	—	2.00	GL W SM	—	66.00		—	—		—
GL W XL	—	118.60		108.25	110.56		116.08	—			35.50																					
GL W LG	—	115.70		105.08	108.50		115.64	101.00			52.25																					
GL W MD	98.00	100.00		90.67	92.33		97.64	99.21			20.75																					
GL W SM	—	—		62.50	64.00		61.00	62.00			4.00																					
GL BR LG	—	—		—	—		—	—			5.00																					
NRBS - 48	—	79.00		—	—		—	80.50			4.00																					

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	01/19/04	01/12/04	01/20/03
PACIFIC COAST	123	124	782
LOS ANGELES	39	39	706

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS

UNAVAILABLE

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is higher on all sizes. The supply is tight to closely balanced. Retail demand is moderate. PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE	136.63
LARGE	134.17
MEDIUM	119.63
SMALL	85.00

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OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION

Report Date: 01/26/2004

Report Period: 01/11/2004 - 01/17/2004

State	Number Cases Shipped to Northern California	Number Cases Shipped to Central California	Number Cases shipped to Southern California	Total State
Arizona	0	0	2,740	2,740
Arkansas	0	0	1,200	1,200
Colorado	0	1,620	8,279	9,899
Iowa	6,230	14,104	68,158	88,492
Maine	0	0	1,680	1,680
Michigan	0	0	5,565	5,565
Minnesota	3,124	0	11,513	14,637
Missouri	0	830	2,717	3,547
New Hampshire	0	0	634	634
New Jersey	0	0	840	840
New York	0	0	900	900
Ohio	0	0	1,750	1,750
Oregon	4,121	727	0	4,848
South Dakota	760	0	720	1,480
Texas	0	0	2,960	2,960
Utah	2,366	2,220	9,181	13,767
Wisconsin	0	0	807	807
TOTAL	16,601	19,501	119,644	155,746
SHIPPED TO MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED TO NONMILITARY	16,601	19,501	119,644	155,746